REMARKS

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-42 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 8, 18, 25, 35, and 37 being independent.

Claims 1, 8, 18, 25, 35, and 37 have been amended. Applicant submits that support for the amendments can be found in the original disclosure, and therefore no new matter has been added.

Claims 1-4, 6-12, 17-21, 23-29, and 34-42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,799,081 (Kim et al.). Claims 5, 13-16, 22, and 30-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim et al. as applied to claims 4, 12, 21 and 29, and further in view of "*MPEG-4: A Bird's* Eye View" by Ken Dawson (Dawson). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for the reasons discussed below.

As recited in independent Claim 1, the present invention includes, *inter alia*, extracting a start code of a frame group consisting of at least one frame, from encoded data included in a section of information data for which security is set and which is to be protected in accordance with security data for protecting at least one section of the information data; superimposing the security data on the start code; and outputting the encoded data processed by scrambling means for scrambling the encoded data other than the start code in the section for which the security is set. With these features, information can be managed in units of a predetermined frame group, so that it is possible to suitably

perform functions such as editing while maintaining the security set for protecting a part of the data.

Applicant submits that the cited art fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-mentioned features of Claim 1, and therefore it also fails to achieve the above-mentioned advantages. Kim et al. merely discloses that information concerning copy control and reproduction control (i.e., copy protection transmission code CPTC) is recorded together with scrambled digital data in order to perform copy protection of a whole program. Because that patent discloses performing control with respect to each program as a whole, it is unnecessary in Kim et al. to manage information data in units of a predetermined frame group. Accordingly, Applicant submits that that patent does not disclose the features of Claim 1 wherein security data is input for protecting at least one section of information data, a start code is extracted from encoded data included in section for which the security is set, and the security data is superimposed on the extracted start code.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the present invention recited in independent Claim 1 is patentable over the art of record. The other independent claims recite similar features and are believed to be patentable for similar reasons. The dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims, as well as for the additional features they recite.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the application is now in allowable form. Favorable reconsideration, entry of this Amendment, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, and early passage to issue are respectfully solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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